

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SEOUL 10120 010952Z
ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W
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O 010839Z DEC 77
FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7880

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 10120

NODIS

STADIS

EYES ONLY FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY HOLBROOKE FROM SNEIDER

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OREP (BOETTCHER, ROBERT), KS, US
SUBJ: FRASER SUBCOMMITTEE STAFFDEL INVESTIGATIVE MISSION

REF: STATE 285701

1. I HAVE JUST RECEIVED REFTEL LISTING THE NUMEROUS KOREANS,
INCLUDING MANY OF THEIR MORE SENIOR PRESENT OR FORMER OFFICIALS,
WITH WHOM BOETTCHER GROUP WISHES APPOINTMENTS.

2. WHILE IT HAS BEEN MY PRACTICE TO COOPERATE FULLY WITH
CONGRESS, WHETHER IN WASHINGTON OR OVERSEAS, I FIND MYSELF
IN A POSITION FOR THE FIRST TIME OF SERIOUSLY QUESTIONING
ADVISABILITY TO DO SO IN THIS INSTANCE. I DOUBT VERY MUCH
WHETHER THE KOREAN GOVERNMENT WILL COOPERATE TO THE EXTENT
OF RUNNING AN INVESTIGATION IN KOREA. FOREIGN MINISTER HAS
ALREADY WARNED ME IN THESE TERMS FOR ME TO SEEK ACTIVELY
THEIR COOPERATION OR TO SEEK TO ARRANGE APPOINTMENTS SEPARATELY
COULD JEOPARDIZE MY OWN CAPACITY FOR FURTHERING US INTERESTS
IN KOREA. WE WILL, UNLESS OTHERWISE INSTRUCTED, PROVIDE
THE LIST OF KOREANS TO THE FOREIGN MINISTRY WITHOUT PREJUDICE
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TO ITS DISPOSITION. WITH OR WITHOUT OUR COOPERATION, I
HESITATE TO CONTEMPLATE THE POTENTIAL DAMAGE THIS STAFFDEL
INVESTIGATION COULD DO, INCLUDING OF COURSE TO CURRENT
SENSITIVE NEGOTIATIONS ON HUMAN RIGHTS AND TONGSUN PARK.

3. VERY FRANKLY, I SERIOUSLY DOUBT THE PROPRIETY OF CON-
DUCTING A CONGRESSIONAL INQUIRY IN THIS FASHION OVERSEAS.

I KNOW OF NO PRECEDENT AND WOULD VERY MUCH DOUBT WHETHER THE US GOVERNMENT WOULD COOPERATE SHOULD THE SHOE BE ON THE OTHER FOOT AND, FOR EXAMPLE, A DIET COMMITTEE CAME TO THE UNITED STATES TO INTERVIEW AMERICANS ON THE LOCKHEED AFFAIR. I WOULD URGE YOUR TO SPEAK DIRECTLY TO CONGRESSMAN FRASER ON THIS MATTER.

4. MORE GENERALLY, I VERY MUCH APPRECIATED YOUR RECENT MESSAGE TO ME. I FEEL CONFIDENT THAT YOUR ARE WELL AWARE OF THE PROBLEMS WE FACE HERE AND THE INTENSITY OF OUR EFFORTS TO MAKE PROGRESS ON THE MULTIPLE PROBLEMS FACED TODAY IN KOREA. WITH THE NEW INSTRUCTIONS, I AM NOW HOPEFUL WE CAN PUT TO BED THE PL-480 NEGOTIATIONS, WITH MINIMAL DAMAGE. WHOEVER, I FEEL THAT THE BOETTCHER STAFFDEL, IF UNLEASHED, MAY WELL BE THE STRAW THAT BREAKS THE CAMEL'S BACK AND PERHAPS MY OWN.

5. WARM REGARDS.

6. AFTER DICTATING ABOVE, I HAVE JUST RECEIVED STATE 286533 REGARDING STAFFDEL APPOINTMENT WITH PAK TONG-SUN. AS YOU CAN SEE FROM ABOVE, I WOULD EMBRACE IN YOUR JUNCTURE AGAINST INTERVIEW NOT ONLY WITH PAK TONG-SUN BUT WITH MOST OF THE PEOPLE ON THE SUBCOMMITTEE STAFFDEL LIST.
SNEIDER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: STAFFDEL, BRIBERY, CORRUPTION, CODELS, COMMITTEES, VISITS, MEETINGS, INVESTIGATIONS, INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION, CAT-B
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 01-Dec-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
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